

HORIZONS

Central Blue Mountains Rotary

Effective - Energetic - Enterprising - Empowered

Rotary District 9685 - Australia

Wednesday, November 06 2019

What'd You Miss?

*Our Italian Pizza Night
@ the Alexandra Hotel, Leura*



Photo: Maria Hopwood

up front



Narrabri Rotary President Julie Hurbert with Kevin Schreiber

Despite severe drought conditions in western NSW, the Rotary Club of Narrabri earned money for their town last week.

Narrabri Rotarians came together and catered meals on two nights for 75 delegates attending the annual conference and AGM of Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows in NSW.

The Rotary club was also involved in arranging a day bus trip to nearby Wee Waa for delegates and partners.

The move to Narrabri for the three-day conference was instigated several months ago by Central Blue Mountains Rotarian Kevin Schreiber, who is the lodge Grand Treasurer.

Schreiber said the idea taking the conference to Narrabri was part of a State Government initiative to assist the economy of regional towns in NSW by encouraging groups of people to visit, stay a couple of days to support local businesses.

Narrabri Rotarians prepared and served meals to 75 delegates at the Manchester Unity conference and AGM, last week.

See "Neighbours in Need"...page 3

In a recent interview published in The Land newspaper, NSW Deputy Premier John Barilaro said: "Every dollar spent with a regional retailer helps keep that small business open and gets money flowing through the local economy."

Kevin Schreiber estimated that taking the conference to Narrabri would have boosted the local economy in excess of \$50,000

Earlier this year, Manchester Unity IOOF of NSW donated \$10,000 to a Rotary organised drought appeal, with a provision that the money be spent in western NSW towns.

Further to that donation, Manchester Unity NSW has decided to send any money they raise in the next two years to the Rotary Clubs of Australia Drought Appeal.

With this in mind, Central Blue Mountains Rotary, this week, donated \$500 to the CWA at Condobolin, instead of providing goods and gifts they were seeking to distribute to needy farming families at Christmas.

Central Blue Mountains Rotary Board considered the donation of money to be spent in the town would better assist the local economy in a small way and also enable the CWA in their effort to assist people in need.





Welcoming delegates at the Manchester Unity conference Narrabri Rotary president Julie Hurbert said a "Neighbours in Need" program had been instigated by Narrabri Rotarians following the suicide death of a 40 year-old local farmer.

She said Rotary members felt an urgent need to address the mental wellbeing of their strong, proud and stoic farming community.

To do this the club set up a program of community barbecues and farm visits as a way of bringing people together to share problems, find support and connect with professional services.

To date, the club has conducted 30 barbecues and numerous farm visits above its regular activities. Also partnerships with Rotary clubs in Boggabri and Wee Waa has meant that Neighbours in Need has reached a much wider proportion of the community.

Currently, Neighbours in Need has 502 families registered across the district and it grows steadily.

"The Rotary Club of Narrabri has been privileged to distribute more than \$1-million of drought appeal funds to the local community by providing EFTPOS cards to be used locally."

"We have also been able to offer assistance through generous donations received from the Channel Nine Rotary Drought Appeal, some government funds, and money raised by other Rotary clubs, corporate and private donations," Julie Hurbert said.

.....*"There are immediate needs of a farming community in drought, but you might be surprised at where organisations such as Rotary have been able to make a considerable difference."*

...Julie Hurbert

The Rotary Clubs of Australia Drought Appeal

Fighting for our farmers

Donate at any Bendigo Bank branch or online at bendigobank.com.au/rotarydrought



WhatsOn....

November

Wednesday 06 - District Governor official visit

Friday 08 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Wednesday 13 - Eugene Ma - the wonders of lion dancing.

Friday 15 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Wednesday 20 - Food Bank collection and distribution

Wednesday 20 - To be advised

Friday 22 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Saturday 23 - Rugby Sevens BMGS - catering van

Wednesday 27 - To be advised

Friday 29 - Lawson Public School breakfast club

Rotary Leadership Institute

Courses are run over two days, power-packed with information, learning, and skills you can use in your Rotary life straight away.

At only \$75 including all materials, coffee breaks and lunch, this is great value to Clubs and their members.

Networking with other Rotarians and led by experienced facilitators, you are sure to enjoy what others are describing as the best Rotary training they have had.

Register online now at rli.rotarydistrict9685.org.au and supercharge your Rotary.

RLI 55 - November 16-17 (Weekend)

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Soggy bottoms raise Rotary dollars

Combining friendly competition and community festivities, the Soggy Bottom Regatta Family Fun Day staged by the Rotary Club of Youngtown, Tasmania, has raised more than \$30,000 for charity in the past three years.

This popular annual event takes place in March at Waverley Lake Park, City of Launceston.

This year, more than 200 contestants crafted boats and paddles using only cardboard and duct tape (those who wished to avoid getting wet had the option of participating in a “dry” footrace) and met at Prizes were awarded for creativity, team spirit, team garb, and design, with boat size limited to roughly 5 by 8 feet.

“Teachers, parents, coaches, children, and families continually come up to members of our club and applaud us for an innovative and family-friendly event,” says Youngtown club member George Manifold. “It is a feel-good event.”

Every year, some of the money raised has gone to funding mental health research, providing scholarships for rural medical and nursing students and indigenous students interested in health issues, and supporting a variety of general health research projects.

The club has also used a portion of the proceeds to purchase insulin pumps and fund mental health initiatives for young people.



This story also appears in The Rotarian magazine, November 2019



Central Blue Rotary Pudding Sellers at Faulconbridge School Twilight Market November 1



Puddings can be purchased
via the Central Blue website
www.centralbluerotary.org
or by contacting Eric Cantor
4757 1790 - 0414 271 857
E: cantors@bigpond.com

Images: Eric Cantor



Please turn to the next page

Mountain Ghost

Who's Who in the ZOO?

Taronga Park of course, our largest and oldest zoo opened in 1916, is home to over 4,000 animals. With its wonderful views over the harbour it is a must go for any visitors to Sydney. In fact, it is world renowned.

Sydney Zoos

The Mountain Ghost was recently reading about Sydney zoos with the new zoo due to open later in the year.

It is located at Bungarribee Superpark in the Western suburbs near Eastern Creek. It does seem quite exciting for the area. It will be a cage free zoo costing \$36m. But it has had its problems.

Firstly, the Ghost could have thought Sydney Zoo would be in the CBD. Taronga Park Zoo took the zoo to Court about using the name Sydney Zoo. Sydney Zoo won that battle but then Featherdale Wildlife Park in nearby Doonside also took them to Court.

It was agreed that Sydney Zoo was not to offer a koala interaction experience, its animals must be two thirds "exotic species" upon opening, and the zoo must vary the type of animal encounters if offers to set its native wildlife apart from that of Featherdale.

How many zoos are there in Sydney or the Mountains, the Ghost thought?

Well there is Taronga Park of course, the largest and oldest. Opened in 1916 at Mosman, it is home to over 4,000 animals. With its wonderful views over the harbour it is a must for any visitors to Sydney. In fact it is world renowned.

Some years ago the Mountain Ghost went to one of the Twilight Concerts held every year in February, well worth a visit.

Featherdale Wildlife Park at Doonside is a lovely zoo specializing in Australian wildlife especially koalas. It has been open for 48 years and now has 1,700 Australian native animals. Featherdale is famous for koalas and kangaroos.

Also in the Sydney CBD is Wildlife Sydney Zoo at Darling Harbour (next to the Aquarium) A very small zoo with Australian animals such as koalas and wombats.



If you want to see koalas there is the Koala Park at West Pennant Hills. It has been there for years. It is very small, and in the Ghost's opinion has seen better days.

So that gives us five zoos in close proximity to the Mountains but if the Ghost's readers would like to go a little further there are two zoos which are worth a longer trip.

The Australian Reptile Park at Somersby on the Central Coast is brilliant. As the name suggests the park is home to a variety of reptiles (snakes and lizards), crocodiles as well as native Australian animals.

It is one of the selected breeding programs to save the Tasmanian Devil from possible extinction. Its two most famous residents are Elvis, the giant crocodile famous for biting a Victa mower in half and Hugo the Galapagos Tortoise.

The second zoo is the Symbio Wildlife Park at Helensburg on the way to Wollongong. This private zoo has been going since 1975. It is small but has some very interesting animals such as red pandas, snow leopards and lemurs. The grandkids rating for this zoo is very high on the Ghost's scale of should he come here again.

When Sydney Zoo at Eastern Creek opens in two months, The Mountain Ghost will be able to give a report on this zoo.



The team cleaning up graffiti in the upper Blue Mountains last week included Tom Colless, Greater Sydney E-club Rotarian Lucian Keegel, and Robert Ralston.



You are invited to join your friends from District 9675 and District 9685 to celebrate The Rotary Foundation at the Annual Dinner being held on 11 November 2019.

The venue is:

The Waterview Function Centre
Bicentennial Drive, Sydney Olympic Park
at 6.30pm for 7pm start.

The guest speaker will be
Past RI President and incoming
Foundation Chair, RAVI RAVINDRAN.

Ravi is a dynamic presenter who will
inform and entertain you.

You will receive information on the
achievements of the Foundation, the
progress being made to End Polio and
Ravi's plans to continue the good work.

A two course meal will be served, with
drinks at bar prices.

The price is \$75/head or
\$700 for a table of ten.

Please contact Ian Scott for details.

4757 2974 - 0402 217 915
ian@scottadr.com

District 9675 & 9685 Conference 2020

20-22 MARCH

Reasons
CONFERENCE 2020
Wollongong

**Book before Dec. 31 and save
dollars on your registration!**

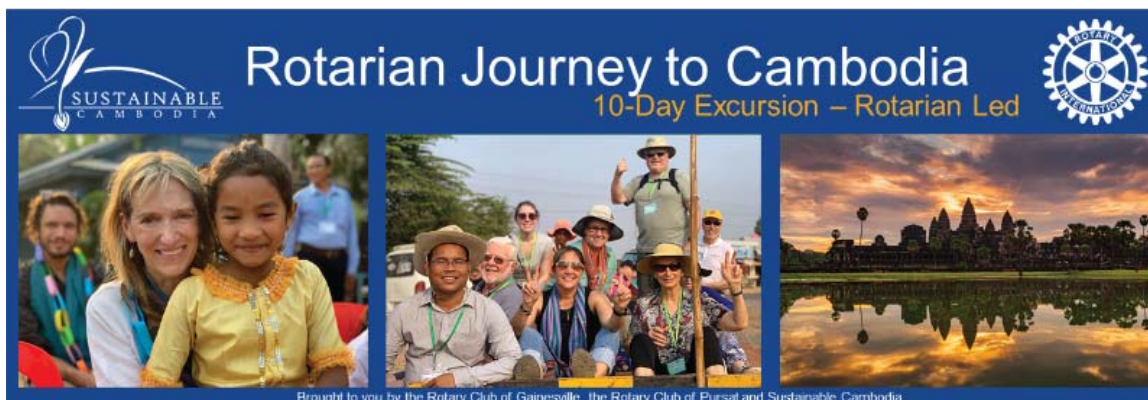
Wollongong Entertainment Centre

**Speakers incl. Turia Pitt, Kaye Green, Rebecca Tolstoy
& Rob Edwards**

Roaring 20s ~ Saturday Night Theme

**Registration ~ \$240 before 31 Dec 2019, \$280 before
29 Feb 2020 + a variety of other packages incl. for New Rotarians,
Rotaractors & those who can't attend all weekend**

Register at bit.ly/reasonsconference2020



Jan 9-19 & Jan 30-Feb 9, 2020
Participate from only USD \$995/pp

Join fellow Rotarians on a trip into ancient Cambodia...

Rotarians from various clubs around the world are joining together with Sustainable Cambodia on a journey into the heart of Cambodia.

This 10-day excursion is a truly unique experience of traveling into Cambodia. Located in Southeast Asia, this beautiful country is rich with history and culture and was awarded one of the top travel destinations for the last two years.

We will travel to the must-visit places in Cambodia including the heart of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, and we will walk amongst the ancient temples of Siem Reap. But tourism is not the sole purpose of this trip.

We will go far off the “tourist routes” to visit village families and experience the impact of Rotary projects in the remote villages of Pursat Province. For those who haven’t gone before, you will have the adventure of a lifetime while helping rural families and children in ways you may have never dreamed possible.

Your contact is Jennifer Scott 0414 367 631 - jennifer@scottadr.com